



UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Matthaei Botanical Gardens and Nichols Arboretum

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For Immediate Release

Peony Peaking Party will be held Saturday, June 7th

When: Saturday, June 7, 2008 (Rain date: June 14, 2008)

Where: Nichols Arboretum, 1610 Washington Heights, Ann Arbor

Time: Noon – 4 p.m.

Cost: Free for the public

Drawn by its brilliant colors and subtle fragrances, the Peony Garden at Nichols Arboretum attracts thousands of visitors every summer. For many, visiting is an annual tradition shared with parents and grandparents. All who come, on purpose or by happenstance, leave amazed by the dazzling display. On Saturday, June 7th the public is invited to an afternoon of watermelon, lemonade, and a splash of color as we enjoy the full blooms will host a Peony Peaking Party.

This local treasure has significance beyond Ann Arbor; it is emerging as a national resource. Few, if any, institutions in North America approach our variety in nineteenth and early twentieth century peony cultivars, most of which were collected by William E. Upjohn of Kalamazoo and donated to Nichols Arboretum in 1922.

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The Matthaei Botanical Gardens and Nichols Arboretum (MBGNA) is 720 combined acres of gardens, trails, woods and prairie. With events, programs, classes, and activities, MBGNA is open every day of the year for visitors, with the Matthaei Botanical Garden visitor center closed on Mondays, and the Reader Center at the Nichols Arboretum closed Saturdays and Sundays. The Gardens are located at 1800 N. Dixboro Road. The Arboretum is located at 1610 Washington Heights.

Matthaei Botanical Gardens and Nichols Arboretum is owned by the University of Michigan, and celebrated its centennial anniversary in 2007. The mission of MBGNA is to promote environmental enjoyment, stewardship, and sustainability through education, research, and interaction with the natural world.